

What's new at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

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Newsletter #39:

What's New at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

Hi everyone! I'm writing this newsletter from lovely Zurich. I've been here for a whirlwind two days and I still have all four auctions ahead of me. I viewed the Nomos auction yesterday shortly after arriving. Bright and early this morning I took a train out to Winterthur and viewed over 400 lots at Leu. Afterwards I traveled back to central Zurich and viewed both NAC auctions. Needless to say it has been very busy and a bit tiring. I still have Sincona to view and I expect to do that sometime in the next few days. I had drinks and dinner with good friends and now I'm finally settling in to write this newsletter. I'm tired but excited about the upcoming auctions. Here is a little review of what is happening.

Zurich Auctions (Nov 22-25)

Nomos will be on Sunday, October 22. Sincona on October 23, followed by NAC on the 24th and finally Leu on the 25th. There are some great possibilities in all the auctions and coins that will appeal to most of my customers. I'm here so please take the time to browse the catalogs online on Sixbid or Numisbids. If you see something of interest I likely have viewed it and can give you my feedback. I'm available for live bidding and you should just contact me immediately if any of these auctions appeal to you.

CNG E-Auction 408 (closing Oct 25)

Like clockwork, CNG has another E-sale closing on 10/25 with 818 lots of ancient and world coins. I'm happy to place any bids for those interested. If you want to view the auction check out Sixbid or Numisbids.

Roma E-Sale 40 (closing Oct 28)

Roma has a massive e-auction of 1,265 lots. Coins range from Greek to modern and there are even small antiquities. I'm happy to assist those that need bidding advice or want representation.

Upcoming Hess-Divo Auction (mid-November)

I recently learned that Hess-Divo has an exciting ancient collection that has recently been consigned. This auction will take place in mid-November. I'm planning to view the auction while I am in Zurich and I will phone bid for anyone interested in participating. I'll report in my next newsletter a little more about the auction but apparently there are some wonderful pedigreed pieces. I'm excited to take a peek while here in Zurich. Hess-Divo has already let me know that they will send me 10 catalogs so please give me a holler if I should send you one. First come, first serve!

Baltimore Coin Show (Nov 9-12)

I am pleased to announce that I am exhibiting at the Whitman Coin Expo in Baltimore for the first time as an independent dealer. I was recently assigned 1246 as my booth number. I hope if you are located close enough and decide to attend the show you will stop by to say hello. The Baltimore show is a great show with a ideal location in the heart of the city and near the harbor. My mother is coming along to help me out so it should be fun.

New Shipping Address

I'll be repeating this for the next few weeks for all to see. My post office box is moving! Please make a note of the new address. The PMB will remain 321 but I have a new address and postal code. Don't worry if you send me a check or package to the old address. The UPS will forward it to me but eventually everyone should just start using the new address.

Shanna Schmidt Num. Inc.
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Coin of the Week <http://www.shannaschmidt.com/coin-of-the-week/>

CALABRIA, Tarentum. c. 281-228 BC.

AR Nomos, 7.30g (21mm, 4h). Head of nymph left, wearing headband and triple pendant earring / Nude youth on horseback right, crowning horse that raises left foreleg; dolphin behind, lion to right below horse, TA below hoof

Pedigree: Ex Comte René Philippon Collection (1870-1936)

Price: \$4,750

The coinage of Tarentum is fascinating and visually beautiful. The ancient tradition tells the story of how Taras, the founder of the first settlement, was miraculously saved from a shipwreck by a dolphin sent by Poseidon, the father of Taras. The dolphin lifted Taras out of the water and delivered him safely to the shore. It was on this spot that the city of Tarentum was founded.

Most coins of Tarentum show Taras on the back of the dolphin which illuminates the tale of Tarentum. This issue shows imagery that is atypical for Tarentum coins. The Campano-Tarentine series dates to around the middle of the 3rd century BC, and are usually said to have been struck somewhere in Campania or Lucania. The reverse displays not the usual type of Taras astride a dolphin. In this case, the obverse horseman type is relegated to the reverse, while instead a nymph resembling those on the coinage of Neapolis takes its place. Furthermore, the coins are struck on the standard not of Tarentum, being 0.8 grams lighter on average, but of those cities on the west coast of Magna Graecia, hence the credence given to this theory. However, the question of where these coins were struck and which region they were intended for, was addressed by J.G. Milne (*An Exchange-Currency of Magna Graecia*), who convincingly argues that it was more likely they were produced in Tarentum for circulation in or trade with the Greek cities of Bruttium, and that they should therefore be properly referred to as Bruttio-Tarentine coinage.

Whatever the case, these coins showcase wonderful imagery. This particular coin comes from an old established collection formed in the late 1800's to early 1900's.

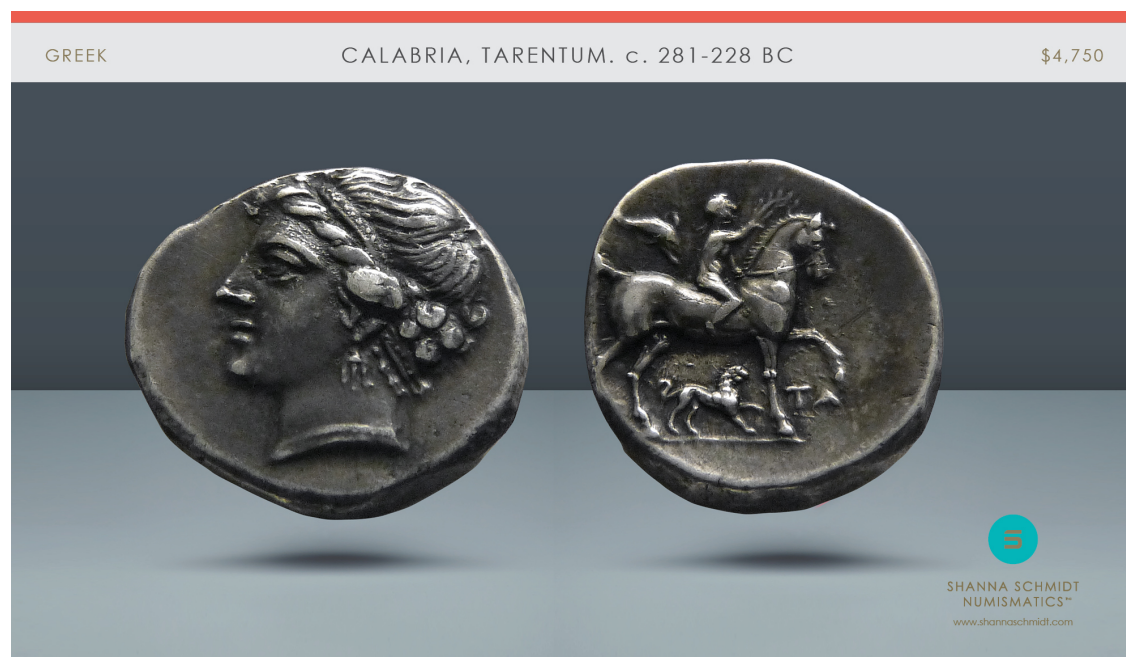
References: *Vlasto 1020; SNG ANS 1292; HN Italy 1098*

Grade: *Lovely cabinet toning. EF*

If you are interested in this coin please email shanna@shannaschmidt.com

If you are interested in any other coins I have available please visit my website www.shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna



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